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investigations upon which alone a genuine history of art can be built up belong almost wholly to the future. Of the three works named, Maspero's is especially notable, because the author, in his capacity as director of the Egyptian excavations and of the museum at Bûlak, was able to accumulate a store of first-hand observations such as no other worker in the same field has had at his command. Moreover, the book is written in that brilliant style of which Maspero is an eminent master. It is much to be hoped that, at no distant day, Maspero may publish the detailed observations on which many of the novel views advanced in this book are based; especially in the department of industrial art is such publication needed.—A. ERMAN, in *Berl. philol. Wochenschrift*, 1890, No. 6.

The translator, who has done his work well, has enriched the original work at many points, and has appended two helpful indexes. His edition has independent value in that it contains cuts and descriptions of many important but hitherto unpublished monuments of Egyptian art in the Berlin Museum.—R. PIETSCHMANN, in *D. Literaturzeitung*, 1890, No. 11.

W. M. FLINDERS-PETRIE. *Hawara, Biahmi and Arsinoe*. 30 plates. Folio, pp. 36. London, 1889.

Mr. Petrie has continued his excavations in Egypt with great success. The present volume records the results of excavations carried on in the winter of 1887–8 in that part of the Fayûm, near the pyramid of Hawara, where Lipsius had fancied he recognized the actual ruins of the Labyrinth. Mr. Petrie has demonstrated the incorrectness of Lipsius' view, and has pointed out that these ruins belong to a late epoch and are of the houses and burial places of the inhabitants of Arsinoe (Strabo's "little village") which was founded upon the site of the Labyrinth. At present, nothing exists of this famous structure except a few fragments, some of which bear the names of Amenemhaït III and Sovkunofriu. The Labyrinth was originally a temple attached to the pyramid of Amenemhaït III, and perhaps subsequently enlarged. Mr. Petrie's suggested restoration, based in part on the remains and in part on the descriptions of ancient writers, gives a building of irregular shape resembling in some particulars the temple of Seti I at Abydos.

The cemetery of Hawara, at least the portion excavated by Mr. Petrie, is of Græco-Roman times, though in the masonry of the Ptolemaic tombs here found sarcophagi of an early date were immured (of the XX and XII dynasties). The coffins were often of great beauty and elegance; the Greek ones furnished the rich collection of encaustic portraits which is now divided between the British Museum and the museum of Bûlak. Mr. Petrie's publication removes all doubts that have hitherto been associated with the portraits from Fayûm. Mr. Petrie believes that these por-

traits were originally taken from life and were subsequently used, when the coffin was made. It seems likely that the coffins were for a time kept in a place accessible to the relatives of the dead, before being heaped together where they are now found. Next in importance to the portraits are the 492 papyri discovered, upon which Mr. Sayce has written a chapter. The greater part of the papyri are official and private documents, accounts, lists, etc., and the oldest are not earlier than the Ptolemies, while the later reach to the age of the Antonines. The volume contains a translation of the hieroglyphic inscriptions (by Mr. Griffith), a study of the technique of the portraits (by Mr. Cecil Smith), and a catalogue of flowers and plants found in the graves (by Mr. Newberry). At Biahmi fewer monuments were discovered. The *débris* at this point, hitherto supposed to be the remains of the bases of two pyramids, is shown by Mr. Petrie to mark courts in which stood the two colossal seated statues mentioned by Herodotus in his description of the Labyrinth; a fragment of an inscription points to Amenemhät III as the author of one of these monuments. Finally, Mr. Petrie carried on excavations on the site of ancient Crocodilopolis, which lies to the north of Arsinoë. This temple was found to have been erected before the XII dynasty, but the hand of Amenemhät III had been busy also here, and the later Pharaohs had taken pains to keep the temple in repair down to the close of the Roman era.—G. MASPERO, in *Rev. Critique*, 1890, No. 1.

R. PIETSCHMANN. *Geschichte der Phöniciën*. 8vo, pp. 313. Illustrations and Maps. Berlin, 1889–90; Grote.

Inasmuch as a continuous series of monuments of Phœnician civilization are lacking, the materials for the history of this people must be gathered mainly from foreign sources—Egyptian, Assyrian, Hebrew, and Greek. The author of this work might greatly have improved his introductory chapters by the use of Egyptian and Assyrian authorities, with which it appears he grew more and more familiar as he proceeded, and might thereby have saved himself from not a few erroneous statements. Egypt and Syria at the time of the Ancient and Middle Empire had by no means the intimate intercourse with each other that has hitherto been taken for granted. Between 4000 and 3000 B. C., the paths of commerce were different from what they were later; *e. g.*, in these times, incense was imported into Egypt from Ethopia; subsequently, from southern Syria. Syria and Egypt came into closer relations as time went on. It is, on the other hand, clear that the civilization of Babylon had penetrated into Assyria as early as about 2000 B. C., and into northern Syria not later than 1500 B. C.; here, in the land of the Hittites, it suffered characteristic modifications, under which form it was in turn borrowed from by Assyrians in the eighth century B. C.